

Stanley's Cat.
As the bonds of friendship are strengthened by a heavy affliction so does a prolonged sojourn in foreign places, amid strange scenes, turn the most common of every-day sights at home into luxuries. A magazine tells a story of Henry M. Stanley, who, after his return from Africa, was busily engaged in writing his story of the "Dark Continent." He used to spread his reference maps upon the floor of his room, and on this particular day after searching in his near neighborhood for a chart which he much needed, he spoke to his assistant, who presently desisted it, near the fireside, with Stanley's favorite cat upon it asleep. He started to turn the intruder off, when the great man interrupted him, saying: "Never mind—don't disturb the cat. I'll get along without the chart until the cat wakes up. If you only knew how good the sight of that domestic cat, curled up in front of that bright English fire, is to me you would never chase her away." The cat slumbered on, and not until she arose with a lazy yawn, scratching her front nails on the rug as she stretched, did the famous explorer reach for his map.

New Signaling Device.
The signal corps of the United States army now operates about 802 miles of military telegraphs. The most notable advance of the year in its system has been the adoption of a combination telegraph and telephone apparatus, which only weighs sixteen pounds, and consequently can easily be carried by one soldier. With this apparatus one soldier can telegraph a message to another, while a telephonic conversation with another station can be simultaneously carried on, the distant operators only receiving the messages intended for each.

There is a Class of People.
Who are injured by the use of coffee. Recently there has been placed in all the grocery stores a new preparation called GRAIN-O, made of pure grains, that takes the place of coffee. The most delicate stomach receives it without distress, and but few can tell it from coffee. It does not cost over 14 as much. Children may drink it with great benefit. 15 cts. and 25 cts. per package. Try it. Ask for GRAIN-O.

When Cats Were Scarce.
Down to as late as the middle ages cats were comparatively scarce in Europe, and were so highly prized that any person who killed one was obliged to pay a fine. This penalty sometimes was required to be paid in the shape of a pile of wheat big enough to cover the slain animal when it was held vertically by the tip of its tail, the nose touching the ground.

Do You Dance To-Night?
Shake into your Shoes Allen's Foot-Ease, a powder for the feet. It makes tight or New Shoes feel Easy. Cures Corns, Bunions, Chubbins and Sweating Feet. At all Druggists and Shoe Stores, 25c. Sample sent FREE. Address, Allen S. Olmsted, LeRoy, N. Y.

By Her Own Fireside.
It is told of a woman who lives midway between Machias and Whitteville, Maine, places four miles apart, that she has not visited Machias for sixteen years or Whitteville for eighteen years.

Don't Be a Crank.
No successful man is a crank. Look over the cranks of your acquaintance and you will be surprised to notice that not one of them does anything well. They are not prominent citizens; they do nothing for the general good. A crank who is a lawyer is not a good lawyer; a crank who is a failure. After demonstrating that he lacks ordinary common sense a crank pretends that he knows everything and that other people do not know anything; that society has learned nothing from experience, and that the world should be turned upside down to accept some of his untried theories. If you can avoid being a crank you'd better do it. You can't succeed as a crank at anything.—Nebraska Journal.

FREE FARMS OF 160 ACRES.
Pleasant Homes in the Canadian West. "Manitoba Hard" wheat can be grown as well in the Alberta district as in Manitoba. The berry is high grade and the average of 35 bushels per acre is one that has not been approached on this continent. For particulars as to transportation, pamphlet on dairying and wheat raising, write C. J. BROUGHTON, 232 Clark Street, Chicago.

Wants the Mediterranean Trade.
Licata, on the south coast of Sicily, at the mouth of the Salso, the ancient Himera, is about to build a large commercial harbor in the expectation of drawing the trade from the east that now goes to Naples and Brindisi, as it is on the direct route from Port Said to Gibraltar.

Read the Advertisements.
You will enjoy this publication much better if you will get into the habit of reading the advertisements; they will afford a most interesting study and will put you in the way of getting some excellent bargains. Our advertisers are reliable, they send what they advertise.

Two Halves in a Scrapping Match.
Bob Minor and Sam Reager, both one-armed, will box four rounds in Cincinnati Dec. 13. With a one-legged man for referee, the armless wonder for time-keeper and the bearded lady as master of ceremonies, there'll be a hot time in the old town that night.

Beauty is Blood Deep.
Clean blood means a clean skin. No beauty without it. Cascarets, Candy Cathartic cleans your blood and keeps it clean, by stirring up the lazy liver and driving all impurities from the body. Begin to-day to banish pimples, boils, blotches, blackheads, and that sickly bilious complexion by taking Cascarets—beauty for ten cents. All druggists, satisfaction guaranteed. 10c, 25c, 50c.

Cherry and Eggs.
The Cherry sisters say they are going to the Klondike. Here, at least, is one place where the Cherrys will not have to dodge. Eggs are too costly there to throw at the girls.—Ex.

Coughing Leads to Consumption.
Kemp's Balsam will stop the cough at once. Go to your druggist to-day and get a sample bottle free. Sold in 25 and 50 cent bottles. Go at once; delays are dangerous.

Burglar Alarm for Bicycles.
A bicycle burglar alarm has been invented. It can be so set when the owner leaves the wheel as to ring the bell when anybody attempts to move it.

TWO BIG BANKS SUSPEND.

Philadelphia Financial Institutions Embarrassed.

LARGE SUMS ARE INVOLVED.

William M. Singler's Banks Caught by the Shrinkage of Securities—Federal, State and City Funds Involved to an Enormous Amount.

The Chestnut Street National Bank, regarded as one of the strongest financial institutions in Philadelphia, suspended Dec. 23. The suspension carried with it the closing of the Chestnut Street Trust and Savings Fund Company. William M. Singler, publisher of the Philadelphia Record, is president of both companies, and the same men, with one exception, act as officers and directors.

It is stated that the deposits of the Chestnut street bank amounted to \$1,700,000 and of the trust company to \$1,300,000.

The failure was primarily due to the loss of much money by Mr. Singler in his unproductive paper mill at Elkton, Md., one of the largest in the country.

Of the deposits in the bank, the city is represented by \$289,554, the state by \$225,000 and the national government by a large sum.

QUINCY WINS IN BOSTON.

Democrats Elect Their Mayor in the Massachusetts City.

In the municipal election at Boston, Dec. 21, the Democrats elected their candidate, Josiah Quincy, for mayor by about 4,000 plurality in a total vote of 88,000. At the last state election Boston went Republican by 6,000.

In addition to the mayor the Democrats captured the board of aldermen from the republicans and confirmed

Important Decision in Michigan.
Hundreds of tax titles in Michigan have been rendered worthless by a decision of the Supreme Court to the effect that when lands are bid off to the state for the taxes of one year and are still held by the state, such lands cannot again be sold for the delinquent taxes of succeeding years. The decision means a loss of many thousands of dollars to the state. A rehearing of the case will be asked.

Secretary Gage on Gold Standard.
Secretary Gage, in a letter to President Gompers of the Federation of Labor, says he is convinced that a breakdown in our present money standard would be a most disastrous blow to all our commercial and industrial interests, and that upon the wage workers as a class would be entailed the most serious effects of the disaster.

Ten Per Cent Cut in Wages.
Notices of a 10 per cent cut in wages have been posted in the Amory, Jefferson and Stark mills at Manchester, N. H. These mills employ 11,000 men, and, with the Amoskeag crews, this makes 20,000 in that city affected by the cotton manufacturers' reduction. The employees will accept the cut.

To Fight the Lodge Bill.
A call upon the German Catholics of the country and particularly those affiliated with the German Catholic union, to join in the agitation against the Lodge bill, restricting immigration, has been promulgated by the central society of the union.

Wisconsin Banks in Good Shape.
The cash reserve just reported is the largest since the organization of the state banking department in Wisconsin, it being, notwithstanding the large increase in deposits, 36.62 per cent of the total of such deposits.

Curfew for Indianapolis.
The city council of Indianapolis, Ind., by a vote of 12 to 7, two members being absent, passed a curfew ordinance prohibiting children under 15 from using the streets after 9 p. m. in the summer and 8 p. m. in the winter.

More Money for Franklin College.
Indiana Baptist ministers and laymen have resolved to increase the educational fund of Franklin College with \$100,000, and a committee of laymen was appointed to co-operate in the work.

\$500,000 Fire at Cleveland, Ohio.
Fire broke out in the Power block, on Frankfort street, Cleveland, Ohio, Dec. 23, and, fanned by a high north-west wind, destroyed property worth more than \$500,000.

May Modify Hawaiian Treaty.
It is said President McKinley is considering the feasibility of consenting to such a modification of the treaty as would prevent the acquired territory of Hawaii from ever becoming a state.

Federation of Labor Adjourns.
The American Federation of Labor ended its seventeenth annual session Dec. 21. Thomas I. Kidd of Chicago was elected fraternal delegate to the Canadian Labor congress.

Hawley Bill Will Pass.
The leaders in congress have agreed to pass the Hawley bill. This insures an increase in the army of two regiments of artillery.

No Quorum Present.
There was no quorum present in either senate or house at Springfield, Ill., Dec. 20, and an adjournment till the next day was immediately taken.

L. A. W. Meet for Indianapolis.
It is likely that Boston will retire in favor of Indianapolis for the 1898 national meet of the L. A. W.

The Best Family Journal.

The New York Ledger is just as good a paper today as it ever was. This is saying a great deal for it, for it has always held a considerable lead over its rivals in the story, department and miscellany field. Besides, the tendency of latter year journalism has not been toward the highest ideal. The era of sensationalism and license swept nearly all the good old papers of our younger days from their moorings. The Ledger stands almost alone unsmirched by the deplorable era of journalistic depravity which, we hope, is nearing its end. It is just closing its fifty-third year of existence. The country has profited by it.—The National Democrat.

Swedish Female Shylock.

Stockholm has a female usurer and she is the worst usurer in the capital. Her victims are chiefly cadets at the army and naval academies, whose pocket money gives out a long time before the next remittance can be expected. She lives in an elegant residence, and to a glass of champagne she generally succeeds in persuading her young clients to sign papa's or uncle's name to the note—merely as a matter of form. As a rule, papa or uncle has passed through the naval or army academy when a young man and knows the mademoiselle from the days he sowed his wild oats—consequently the drafts or notes do not go to protest.

Try Grain-O.

Ask your grocer to-day to show you a package of GRAIN-O, the new food drink that takes the place of coffee.

The children may drink it without injury as well as the adult. All who try it like it. GRAIN-O has that rich seal brown of Mocha or Java, but it is made from pure grains, and the most delicate stomach receives it without distress. 1/4 the price of coffee.

15 cents and 25 cents per package. Sold by all grocers. Tastes like coffee. Looks like coffee.

Essay on Lynching.

A Georgia school boy who reads the newspapers submits the following unique composition on the lynching evil: "Lynchin' is wrong. It hurts the limbs of the beautiful trees where the birds sing. It also hurts the people what's lynched. They should have a regular hangin' an' sell peanuts an' lemonade. People what's hung regular, by law, always go to heaven. I don't want to go to heaven that way."

It Keeps the Feet Dry and Warm.

And is the only cure for Chilblains, Frostbites, Damp, Sweating Feet, Corns and Bunions. Ask for Allen's Foot-Ease, a powder to be shaken into the shoes. At all Druggists and Shoe Stores, 25c. Sample sent FREE. Address, Allen S. Olmsted, LeRoy, N. Y.

Didn't Mean It Just That Way.

It was a Chicago clergyman who, before preaching a charity sermon, announced that a collection would be taken for the sufferers at both morning and evening service.

Don't Tobacco Spit and Smoke Your Life Away.
To quit tobacco easily and forever, be magnetic, full of life, nerve and vigor, take No-To-Bac, the wonder-worker that makes weak men strong. All druggists, 50c or \$1. Cure guaranteed. Booklet and sample free. Address: Sterling Remedy Co., Chicago or New York.

Poet Gets Judgment.

Poet Isaac Pool, of Chicago, wrote verses commemorating the marriage of a police captain. The officer refused to pay and Pool sued, getting a judgment.

Lane's Family Medicine.

Moves the bowels each day. In order to be healthy this is necessary. Acts gently on the liver and kidneys. Cures sick headache. Price 25 and 50c.

The average tumbler holds half a pint; but the circus tumbler holds about half a keg.

Poems often come home to roost—accompanied by a return envelope.

AN OPEN LETTER TO MOTHERS.

WE ARE ASSERTING IN THE COURTS OUR RIGHT TO THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF THE WORD "CASTORIA" AND "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," AS OUR TRADE MARK.
I, DR. SAMUEL PITCHER, of Hyannis, Massachusetts, was the originator of "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," the same that has borne and does now bear the fac-simile signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher* on every bottle of the original "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," which has been used in the homes of the mothers of America for over thirty years. LOOK CAREFULLY at the wrapper and see that it is the kind you have always bought and has the signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher* on the wrapper. No one has authority from me to use my name except The Centaur Company of which Chas. H. Fletcher is President.
March 8, 1897.
Do not endanger the life of your child by accepting a cheap substitute which some druggist may offer you (because he makes a few more pennies on it), the ingredients of which even he does not know.
"The Kind You Have Always Bought" BEARS THE FAC-SIMILE SIGNATURE OF
Chas. H. Fletcher
Insist on Having
The Kind That Never Failed You.
THE CENTAUR COMPANY, 77 MURRAY STREET, NEW YORK CITY.

CROUP REMEDY.

It has never failed to cure any kind of Croup, Sore Throat, Enlarged Tonsils, Whooping Cough, and all Lung Diseases. By mail, 10 cents. Box, 50 cents. Dr. Belden Proprietary Co., Jamaica, N. Y.

AGENTS WANTED.

By a 20 year established factory (rated \$100,000). Free samples. Several earn \$1,000 yearly. P. O. 1871, New York.

WHAT MAN DOES NOT LOVE BEAUTY?

Mrs. Pinkham Counsels Young Wives to Keep Their Attractiveness. A Letter From a Young Wife.

Seven-eighths of the men in this world marry a woman because she is beautiful in their eyes.

What a disappointment then to see the fair young wife's beauty fading away before a year passes over her head!

I feel as if I would like to say to every young woman who is about to be married—"Strengthen yourself in advance, so that you will not break down under the new strain on your powers." Keep your beauty, it is a precious possession! Your husband loves your beauty, he is proud to be seen in public with you; try to keep it for his sake, and your own.

The pale cheeks, the dark shadows under the eyes, the general drooping of the young wife's form, what do they mean? They mean that her nerves are failing, that her strength is going and that something must be done to help her through the coming trials of maternity.

Build her up at once by a course of some tonic with specific powers. Such as Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. You can get it at any druggist's. Following we publish a letter from a young wife—of her own accord she addresses it to her "suffering sisters," and while from modesty she asks to withhold her name, she gives her initials and street number in Chambersburg, Pa., so she can easily be found personally or by letter:

To my Suffering Sisters—Let me write this for your benefit, telling you what Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has done for me. I am but nineteen and suffered with painful menstruation, leucorrhoea, dizziness, burning sensation back of ears and on top of my head, nervousness, pain and soreness of muscles, bearing-down pains, could not sleep well, was unable to stand without pain, and oh! how I longed to be well!

One day I wrote to Mrs. Pinkham telling her all, knowing I could do so in perfect confidence.

She wrote me a lovely letter in reply, telling me exactly what to do. After taking nine bottles of the Compound, one box of Liver pills, and using one-half package of Sanative wash, I can say I am cured. I am so happy, and owe my happiness to none other than Mrs. Pinkham.

Why will women suffer when help is near? Let me, as one who has had some experience, urge all suffering women, especially young wives, to seek Mrs. Pinkham's advice.—Mrs. R. S. R., 113 E. Catherine St., Chambersburg, Pa.

An Aberdeen jam and pickle manufacturer has bequeathed \$2,500,000 for foreign missions, chiefly in Moravia, Italy and China.

We admire a man who is positive in his convictions. Dr. Taff, No. 4 Elm St., Rochester, N. Y., is so sure that DR. TAFF'S ANTIMALARIAL will cure every case of Malaria that he will send a trial bottle absolutely free to those afflicted.

The sun shines for all, but the sleeping-car porter does it for a quarter.

Educate Your Bowels With Cascarets.
Candy Cathartic cure constipation forever. 10c, 25c. ITC C. C. fall, druggists refund money.

It's a poor road that will allow a bicycle to indulge in mud slinging.

Piso's Cure for Consumption is the only cough medicine used in my house.—D. C. Albright, Millfield, Pa., Dec. 11, 1895.

The presence of a neighbor's hog in your garden is the root of evil.

Coe's Cough Balsam is the oldest and best. It will break up a cold quicker than anything else. It is always reliable. Try it.

It is the want of health that makes wealth for the physician.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY.
Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All Druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. 50c.

The best way to make a slow horse fast is not to feed him.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup For children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic. 25 cents a bottle.

It's the custom of advertising that brings customers.

No-To-Bac for Fifty Cents.
Guaranteed tobacco habit cure, makes weak men strong, blood pure. 50c. \$1. All druggists.

The closer money is the harder it is to get hold of.

Star Tobacco is the leading brand of the world, because it is the best.

Uneasy lies the face that wears a frown.

HOW? By soothing and subduing the pain. That's the way
ST. JACOBS OIL CURES NEURALGIA.



DO YOU COUGH
DON'T DELAY
TAKE
KEMP'S BALSAM
THE BEST COUGH CURE

It Cures Colds, Coughs, Sore Throat, Croup, Influenza, Whooping Cough, Bronchitis and Asthma. A certain cure for Consumption in first stages, and a sure relief in advanced stages. Use at once. You will see the excellent effect after taking the first dose. Sold by dealers everywhere. Large bottles 25 cents and 50 cents.

NEURALGIA
Sick and Nervous Head-aches POSITIVELY Cured in 30 Minutes, by
Anti-Neuralgic
At all druggists or sent post-paid upon receipt of \$1.
FRENCH CHEMICAL CO.
356 Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.

SCALES Self-adding, pat. combination beam. No loose weights. U. S. standard. Best and cheapest. Send for prices.
WEAVER SCALE WORKS, BUFFALO, N. Y.

FARMS In the South. Cheap. Easy Terms. Free Cat. W. H. A. Crawford & Co., Southern Colonizers, Nashville, Tenn.

HOW? By soothing and subduing the pain. That's the way
ST. JACOBS OIL CURES NEURALGIA.

W. N. U. CHICAGO, NO. 1. 1895.

When Answering Advertisements Kindly Mention This Paper.

HALL'S Vegetable Sicilian
HAIR RENEWER
Gives new life and vigor to the roots of the hair. It's like water to a drooping plant. No gray hair. No baldness.

DON'T RENT A FARM, BUY ONE.
"The Corn Belt" is an illustrated monthly paper, thoroughly reliable, and full of information about western farm lands. It will guide you in securing a cheap home in a prosperous and healthy community. Send 25 cents for a year's subscription to "The Corn Belt," Adams St., Chicago.

CURE YOURSELF!
Use Big 6 for unnatural discharges, irritations or ulcerations of mucous membranes. Painless, and not astrin- gents. THE EVANS CHEMICAL CO. sent or poisonous. CONCENTRATED. Sold by Druggists, or sent in plain wrapper, by express, prepaid, for 75c. or 2 bottles, \$1.25. Circular sent on request.

PENSIONS Get Your Pension DOUBLE QUICK
Write CAPT. O'FARRELL, Pension Agent, 1425 New York Avenue, WASHINGTON, D. C.

DROPSY NEW DISCOVERY! New cases. Send for book of testimonials and 10 days' treatment free. Dr. H. L. GIBBS'S, Atlanta, Ga.

For Croup,
asthma, bronchitis, or whooping cough, there is no remedy so sure and safe as Dr. Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. From the first dose its healing influence is manifest. The sufferer who has been kept awake by the cough falls into a restful sleep, and awakes strong and refreshed. Dr. Ayer's Cherry Pectoral is acknowledged to be a specific for all pulmonary complaints. Physicians praise and prescribe it.
It is now put up in half size bottles at half price, 50c.
"One of my children had croup. One night I was startled by the child's hard breathing, and on going to it found it strangling. It had nearly ceased to breathe. Having a part of a bottle of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral in the house, I gave the child three doses at short intervals, and anxiously waited results. From the moment the Pectoral was given the child's breathing grew easier, and in a short time it was sleeping quietly and breathing naturally. The child is alive and well to-day. Ayer's Cherry Pectoral saved its life."—C. J. WOOLDRIDGE, Worthen, Texas.
Ayer's Cherry Pectoral.

CANDY CATHARTIC
Cascarets
CURE CONSTIPATION
REGULATE THE LIVER
ALL DRUGGISTS
10c 25c 50c

GUARANTEED TO CURE dyspepsia, constipation, headache, liver and kidney diseases.
Dr. Kay's Renovator
Write us all of YOUR SYMPTOMS plainly.
Our physician will give
FREE ADVICE,
66-page book of recipes, and
FREE SAMPLE.
Address **DR. B. J. KAY MEDICAL CO.,** (Western Office), Omaha, Neb.
Sold by **DRUGGISTS** or sent by mail. **PRICE 25 CTS. & 50 CTS.**